

Department of Justice

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FORMER DAYTON POLICE OFFICER RECEIVES FIVE-YEAR SENTENCE

Possession of firearm during commission of drug crime

DAYTON - Former Dayton Police officer Richard E. Elworth was sentenced in United States District Court here today to five years imprisonment, followed by five years of supervised release, for possession of a firearm during the commission of a drug crime.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio; Stanley J. Borgia, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cincinnati Field Division; Kenneth Marshall, Executive Director, Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission; and Julian Davis, Chief of Police, Dayton Police Department, announced the sentence handed down this morning by U.S. District Judge Thomas M. Rose.

Elworth and former Germantown Police Officer James A. Gregory were arrested on July 25, 2005 after Gregory broke into the home of a suspected drug dealer in Dayton in order to rob the dealer of drugs and cash. Elworth, while on duty as a Dayton officer, served as a "lookout" while parked in his cruiser in front of the house. Their plan was to steal the drugs and sell them. Elworth pled guilty to one count of possession of a firearm in commission of a drug crime on October 19, 2005.

Gregory pled guilty to the same crime on November 3, 2005 and will be sentenced February 3.

"The pair planned to steal drugs from drug dealers and sell the drugs for their own personal gain," Lockhart said. "Such actions insult the people law enforcement officers are sworn to protect. This case shows no one is above the law." Lockhart also thanked Montgomery County Sheriff David Vore, whose office provided logistical support during the investigation."

"The FBI takes crimes by those sworn to protect us very seriously," Borgia said. "This case indicates the FBI's determination to bring those to justice who would engage in such crimes."

Lockhart commended the cooperative investigative efforts by the officers and agents in the case, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Dwight Keller, who prosecuted the case.